United Nations S/2001/905

Security Council

Distr.: General
25 September 2001
English
Original: French

Note by the President of the Security Council

The members of the Security Council, taking into account the views expressed at its 4223rd meeting on "No exit without strategy", held on 15 November 2000, having considered the report of the Secretary-General entitled "No exit without strategy: Security Council decision-making and the closure or transition of United Nations peacekeeping operations" (S/2001/394), and recognizing the importance of achieving a sustainable peace through a United Nations peace mission, have indicated their agreement and commitment as follows.

1. The Security Council recalls its resolutions 1327 (2000) and 1353 (2001), all relevant Council resolutions and all relevant statements of its President, and takes note of the respective roles of the Council, the Secretariat and the General Assembly, including the Council's relationship with troop-contributing countries and the use of Council missions in conflict areas, in formulating and implementing decisions with respect to a United Nations mission.

2. The Security Council acknowledges that a good exit strategy is facilitated by a good entrance strategy.

3. The Security Council agrees that it is essential that all relevant parts of the United Nations system, as well as the Government of the host country, be fully engaged during the life of a mission, that clear direction is given and milestones are established that support a comprehensive and integrated approach to peace-building, where peace-building is appropriate, as well as the operation's exit strategy, and to that end encourages the Secretary-General to make recommendations to the Council as appropriate.

4. The Security Council undertakes to include, as appropriate, peace-building elements in a mission's mandate to support the transition from peacekeeping to post-conflict peace-building, and underlines the importance of necessary coordination with the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council and the relevant funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, as well as the Bretton Woods institutions, particularly in respect of transition from peacekeeping to post-conflict peace-building.

5. The Security Council recognizes that a more systematic assessment of certain basic factors, including political objectives, strategic analysis, the commitment of parties, the role of regional actors and the availability of resources, in particular troops and equipment, will be important in deciding on

01-55097 (E) 250901

the authorization of, making significant changes to, the withdrawal of and the closure and transition of United Nations peacekeeping operations.

6. The Security Council agrees that a major criterion for the Council's decision on the scaling down or withdrawal of a peacekeeping operation is the successful completion of its mandate, resulting in the establishment of a requisite political and security environment conducive to durable peace and/or a follow-on post-conflict peace-building process.

7. The Security Council welcomes the expressed commitment of the Secretary-General to providing the best, most pertinent information available to the Secretariat, including that obtained through the early dispatch of fact-finding and technical surveys to potential mission areas.

8. The Security Council reiterates that the Secretary-General should possess the capacity for efficient information-gathering and analysis to provide credible, objective analyses and sound advice to support the Council's deliberations during mandate formation, periodic or episodic review of a mandate and consideration of withdrawal of a mission.

9. The Security Council supports the expressed intention of the Secretary-General to include comprehensive disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes in his plans for future peacekeeping operations, as appropriate, so that the Council can consider, on a case-by-case basis, the inclusion of aspects of disarmament, demobilization and reintegration in the operations' mandates, and encourages the Secretary-General to do so.

10. The Security Council reiterates its commitment contained in its resolution 1353 (2001) to strengthen its partnership with troop-contributing countries, in particular the role of troop-contributing countries in the process of mandate formation, review and termination, taking into account the views of troop-contributing countries for the extension of cooperation between them and the Council.

11. The Security Council undertakes to give consideration in its deliberations on the launch, review, closure or significant alteration of the mandate of a peacekeeping operation to the questions presented by the Secretary-General in his report, and also to the observations made by Member States during the debate of the Council on 15 November 2000.

12. The Security Council, pursuant to Chapter VIII of the Charter, and without compromising the Security Council's prerogative to act, undertakes to encourage cooperation with regional organizations, where appropriate, and stresses, in particular, that the views of those who will be responsible for the implementation of a peace agreement should be considered during the negotiation phase, that the main actors in negotiations should assess realistically the capacity and comparative advantage of different implementing bodies and that the lines of reporting and the division of labour must be unambiguous, and recognizes the importance of regional organizations that contribute to peacekeeping operations, seeking to develop their capacity to provide peacekeeping operations not only with military peacekeepers, but also with other relevant personnel, such as police and judicial or penal experts, and calls upon the international community to extend support in that regard.

13. The Security Council recognizes that the timely contribution and deployment of personnel, material and funds is vital to the successful implementation of a mission and to the withdrawal of a mission on the basis of an accomplished mandate, agrees to undertake a major role in accordance with its Charter responsibilities in consolidating support for the mission among the parties, regional actors, troop-contributing countries and Member States, and reiterates that the support and political will of each can be crucial to a mission's ultimate success.